

IAP12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 JAN 2006

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09875.0274**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

National Stage of International Application No.)
PCT/JP2003/022547)
Inventor: Andrew MAUNDER)
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)
Filed: January 20, 2006)
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR CLEANING A BATCH OF)
GRANULAR MATERIAL)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 (and cited in the international search report). Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the

documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 20, 2006

By: 

Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures
EFC/FPD/tlm

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known 10/565201	
Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	January 20, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Andrew MAUNDER
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	09875.0274

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,631,124	12-23-1986	PAULSON	
		US- 5,071,541	12-10-1991	THOMPSON	
		US- 5,201,576	04-13-1993	SQUYRES	
		US- 6,355,897 B1	03-12-2002	BJÖRK	
		US- 2003/0127366 A1	07-10-2003	IKEDA et al.	
		US-			
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		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0 705 650 A2	04-10-1996	SATAKE CORPORATION		
		GB 2 033 881 A	05-29-1980	GUNSON'S SORTEX LIMITED		
		WO 99/37412	07-29-1999	SVANTE BJÖRK		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.